(d) if so, the details thereof and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (d) No, Sir. Following reports of outbreak of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) in some countries Government of India has taken adequate steps to prevent entry of the disease in to the country and to isolate and treat a case if reported. The steps include screening of all persons disembarking in India for symptoms of suspect/probable SARS cases. For this purpose a proforma has been prepared by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and handed over to concerned authorities. The health care facilities at International Airports and Ports have been strengthened by deploying additional doctors and evolving a standard operating protocol. The health staff is monitoring passengers disembarking in India to report any suspected case and to take further appropriate action.

Hospitals have been identified with isolation facilities where the passengers with SARS like symptoms would be immediately shifted for further management.

Prevalence of spurious drugs in the Market

3934. SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government with the assistance of an N.G.O. namely the Delhi Society for the Promotion of Rational Use of Drugs (DSPRUD) has undertaken an extensive survey of the market in Delhi, Haryana, M.P. and U.P. to gauge the prevalence of spurious drugs;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the task force constituted to undertake the work consists of qualified pharmacists to help it in its work;

(d) by when the report is likely to finalized and published; and

(e) what steps are in the meanwhile being taken to curb the sale of spurious drugs in the market which has assumed alarming proportions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (d) The Delhi Society for the Promotion of Rational Use of Drugs (DSPRUD)—a non-governmental organization has informed that they would be conducting a survey as a

pilot study in Delhi State only to gauge the extent of spurious drugs in the market. The task force includes qualified pharmacists. Their report is likely to be finalized and published by them around January, 2004.

(e) Since manufacture and sale of spurious drugs is mainly a clandestine activity indulge in by anti social persons, steps are taken from time to time by enforcement authorities of the States to detect and unearth spurious/fake drugs in the inter-state commerce. Government of India has taken the following steps:—

The Drugs Controller General (India) has advised the state drugs controllers to take the following measures for curbing the incidence of spurious drugs:—

(i) Constitution/reactivation of the State Drug Advisory Committee in which various state and industry associations as well consumer associations would find representation.

(ii) Establishment of separate intelligence-cum-legal machinery with police assistance. Training should be provided to selected officials of Drugs Control Administration in the modalities of intelligence work, prosecution etc. in respect of spurious/counterfeit drugs.

(iii) To ensure speedy analysis of drug samples by establishing own state level drug testing facilities.

(iv) State Drugs Control Authorities should be cautious while approving licenses for drug products to ensure that "look-alike" products are not encouraged.

(v) To develop efficient communication facilitates and recall procedures.

(vi) Surveillance of suspected dealers.

(vii) Engaging experienced counsel for fighting spurious drug cases.

(viii) Cooperation of pharmaceutical industry by regular interaction with them.

(ix) Collection of survey samples under National Survey Quality Evaluation of Drugs (NSQED) Programme.

- The Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare had written on Oct. 8, 2002 to all the Chief Ministers seeking their personal

intervention to ensure that adequate measures are taken in each State to deal with this problem. Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare also convened a meeting of the Health Ministers and senior officials of 13 major States of the country on 12.11.2002 to discuss measures to ensure consorted action required to check movement of spurious drugs in the country and to involve all stakeholders, including pharma industry, to curb the menace of manufacture and marketing of spurious/ fake medicines.

Union Ministry of Health & Family Welfare constituted a Committee under the chairmanship of DGHS to examine the extent of problem and suggest remedial measures. Committee report has been submitted along with its recommendation in July 2002. A copy of the report of the Committee constituted by the Government of India to examine the issues concerning availability of spurious drugs in the market and measures recommended thereof have been sent to all the State Drugs Controllers for their implementation.

- Government of India has set up an expert committee on January 27, 2003 under the Chairmanship of DR. R.A. Mashelkar, DG, CSIR and Secretary to Govt. of India to look into various issues related to drugs control administration including the matter of effectively tackling the problem of spurious drugs.
- Central Government have taken steps to augment the drugs testing facilities of State laboratories. Strengthening information system through computer networking is also under implementation.

Assistance to States for Renovation of Health Facilities

3935. PROF.M. M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state the details of financial assistance provided by Government to various States during the last three years for repair and renovatiion of health facilities, procurement of drugs and equipments, etc. in medical sub-centres, public health centres and child care centres?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA) : A sum of Rs. 10.00 lakh per